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Mayor's Essay Contest

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Mrs. McMahon

St. Elizabeth School

If I were mayor, I would make sure people are aware of important safety issues and that they are prepared for critical emergencies and natural disasters. The first thing I would do would be to send citizens a notification about the free services the city will provide for their houses, such as: preventing fires, avoiding gas leaks, checking for high levels of radon and carbon monoxide, examining door locks for security, and encouraging the use of exterior lights. The city will also provide helpful checklists, with advice on how to be ready for serious emergencies, such as snowstorms, tornados, hurricanes, earthquakes, and terrorist attacks. Special city employees will be providing these services for families; these employees will be the "Protection Patrols." These Protection Patrols will be paid partly by companies like Lowe's and Home Depot because of citizens buying more fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, radon tests, new locks, exterior lights, etc.

The city will also provide a new cable channel that will be running shows with advice on how to keep citizens safe at home. For example, viewers might see a show about how to get radon checks; if homes have too much radon, people could get lung cancer. Viewers may also see a show about how to buy and use a fire extinguisher in an emergency. Another show would be about where to buy and how to use exterior lights for houses. One other show would be about what to stock up on ahead of an emergency, such as food, water, gas, cash, blankets, flashlights/candles, matches, batteries, and needed medicines. As mayor, safety will be my first priority.